



Mr. Charles Betcher  
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Oakland SPCA • Preventing cruelty to animals

April 19, 1999

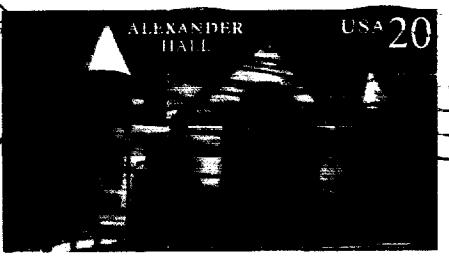
TO THE DIRECTOR:

Please ban the forced molting of laying hens. During it, food is withheld for several days. This is not only inhumane, it also increases to occurrence of the *Salmonella enteritidis*, a food borne pathogen causing widespread human illness and distress. Thank you.

CB  
CHARLIE BETCHER

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U.S. Food & Drug Administration  
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